

APR 1 1992

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



515895

Region V Interagency Agreement

Richard Bartelt, Chief
Remedial Responses Branch

William Hedeman, Director
Office of Emergency & Remedial Response

This memo is written to propose the establishment of procedures for the acquisition of services of the U.S. Department of Interior Geological Survey (USGS). The advantage to the Agency of this acquisition is to maintain a high level of competence and crucial continuity to the efforts of Federal, State, and local governments in investigating and developing solutions for the hazardous waste problems in the State of Minnesota and other specific areas in Region V. This is in accordance with the provisions of the proposed National Contingency Plan, 40 CFR Part 300, Subpart B, Subsections 300.22 and 300.23.

BACKGROUND:

Coordination between the USGS and the Regulatory Agencies has been effective in Minnesota particularly when a major groundwater survey was initiated by the USGS throughout the State. The background data already collected by the USGS are used to supplement and provide a basis for numerous engineering/health studies conducted by private firms and government agencies. For example, an active research program implemented by the USGS in 1978 for the St. Louis Park area has attempted to define and model the transport of organic contaminants. These include coal tar derivatives found in the Prairie-duChien - Jordan aquifer which serves as a major drinking water source. The USGS has also investigated groundwater pollution in the Twin Cities area and a computer model has been developed. Some of this work conducted by the USGS would have been funded, through the Superfund Program, by contract to a private firm.

DISCUSSION:

Region V Remedial Response Branch acknowledges the usefulness and expertise of the USGS work conducted at St. Louis Park and many other areas in Minnesota. This work will be pertinent to the Federally funded Remedial Action Plan that

will utilize current USGS information for the analysis of the extent of pollution in soils and aquifers at the abandoned Reilly Tar site St. Louis Park. Eventually this information will aid in the implementation of a treatment plan for soils and groundwater. In fiscal year '81, Region V Enforcement Division, by its own Interagency Agreement, utilized and paid for the services of Mr. Marc Hult of the USGS Minneapolis office for similar services outlined below. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the USEPA Office of Waste Programs Enforcement, Headquarters, and the USGS, was signed on September 15, 1981 for a total of \$200,000 but it is our understanding that these funds are spent and not renewable. The efforts of our respective Superfund offices to plan a cost-effective program and to ensure a timely and successful cleanup of the Reilly Tar site are now hampered due to the lack of a new Interagency Agreement or an amendment to the existing MOU. If such an amendment were in place we could transfer additional funds from the USEPA to the USGS. Therefore, the Region V, Remedial Response Branch proposes that our Region with the cooperation of your offices participate in an Interagency Agreement with the USGS for the following tasks outlined below.

PROPOSAL:

- a) Utilize the USGS services in conjunction with a private firm, when cost-effective and beneficial for the:
 - 1) measurement of the vertical and horizontal extent of contaminants in soil and groundwater, and refinement of an existing pollutant transport model;
 - 2) development of plans of study for treatability of soils and groundwater;
 - 3) review of EPA/MPCA subcontractor's work;
 - 4) continued monitoring of contaminants in soil and groundwater for a specified time (1-2 years at a particular site) and;
 - 5) access to USGS files as related to particular case development.
- b) Utilize the USGS labs, when demonstrated as cost-effective, for the analysis of contaminants monitored above. The labs are equipped with the necessary analytical instrumentation and therefore the cost would be only for the service provided. EPA will coordinate quality assurance. Lab work should be completed and results sent within a 4 week turn-around time.

why →
 We anticipate that Region V will administer the agreement and submit progress reports to Headquarters with our recommendation for payment. The payment of services will be made by Headquarters to the USGS. With a strict development of a scope of work for the USGS, we can assure that only the USGS services necessary for those tasks essential to the completion of a Remedial Action Plan, are paid by Headquarters. There are no other agencies or firms that can continue this level of work for the above specified tasks at such a low cost to our Agency.

The Reilly Tar site is only one example of USGS technical involvement that benefits our efforts to implement the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980. There are other sites where USGS participation will be needed in the near future. These sites are: New Brighton, Minnesota; Koppers Coke, Minnesota; and Gratiot County, Michigan.

when
 We will submit to you a proposed Interagency Agreement with a justification and a scope of work in two weeks for procurement of USGS services. Meanwhile, if you have any questions regarding our intent, please call me at FTS 353-9773, or Paul Bitter, the On-Scene-Coordinator for the Reilly Tar site, at FTS 886-3007.

cc: R. Murphy, WH527-M
 D. Albin, USGS
 M. Hult, USGS
 N. Willis, WH548-E
 R. Myer, WH548-E
 R. Ferguson, MPCA

where is it?